

Applicant : Scott, Walter
Appl. No. : 10/644,105
Examiner : Gehman, Bryon
Docket No. : 14232.4001

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A closed container system for a live plant having roots, the closed container system comprising:

a body defining a body lumen, the body having a base and a top to close the body lumen;

a removable top lid adapted to cover the body lumen at the top of the body;

a removable bottom lid adapted to cover the body lumen at the base of the body;

a subcontainer adapted to be housed within the body; ~~and to hold~~

a water-retaining hydrogel contained in the subcontainer;

a lid adapted to cover the subcontainer, the lid having a face; and

a ~~tapered~~ second lumen in the face of the lid, ~~the diameter of the tapered lumen being narrower at the end of the lumen furthest from the face of the lid so as adapted~~ to provide access by the roots of the live plant to the hydrogel and ~~prevent~~ hinder leakage of the hydrogel out of the subcontainer.

2. (currently amended) The closed container system of claim 1 wherein the ~~tapered second lumen is cylindrical~~ a tapered lumen such that the diameter of the second lumen is narrower at the end of the second lumen furthest from the face of the lid.

3. (currently amended) The closed container system of claim 1 wherein the tapered lumen is rectangular.

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4. (currently amended) The closed container system of claim 12 wherein the tapered lumen has a non-tapering portion.

5. (currently amended) The closed container system of claim 12 wherein the ~~body is elongate~~ tapered lumen is cylindrical.

6. (previously presented) The closed container system of claim 1 wherein the body is transparent.

7. (previously presented) The closed container system of claim 1 wherein the subcontainer is transparent.

8. (previously presented) The closed container system of claim 1 further comprising a plant food added to the hydrogel.

9. (previously presented) The closed container system of claim 1 further comprising a hook or display card.

10. (currently amended) A ~~closed~~ container system for a live plant, the ~~closed~~ container system comprising:

a body defining a main lumen, ~~the body~~ having a base opening and a top opening to close the lumen;

a removable top lid adapted to close the top opening of the main lumen;

a removable bottom lid adapted to close the bottom opening of the main lumen;

a container in the main lumen of the body;

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a water-retaining hydrogel within ~~a portion of the lumen of the body~~ the container;

a divider to cover the container ~~adapted to fit snugly within the lumen of the body~~ so as to separate the hydrogel from the ~~rest of the~~ main lumen of the body; and

a second lumen in the divider, the second lumen being configured to provide access by the roots of the live plant to the hydrogel and ~~prevent~~ hinder the hydrogel from migrating from one side of the divider to the other side of the divider.

11. (currently amended) The ~~closed~~ container system of claim 10 wherein the second lumen is elongate.

12. (currently amended) The ~~closed~~ container system of claim 10 wherein the second lumen is a tapered lumen.

13. (currently amended) The ~~closed~~ container system of claim 12 wherein the tapered lumen is in a face of the divider, the diameter of the tapered lumen being narrower at the end of the lumen furthest from the face of the divider.

14. (currently amended) The ~~closed~~ container system of claim 13 wherein the tapered lumen is cylindrical.

15. (currently amended) The ~~closed~~ container system of claim 13 wherein the tapered lumen is rectangular.

16. (currently amended) The ~~closed~~ container system of claim 13 wherein the tapered lumen has a non-tapering portion.

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17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) The ~~elosed~~ container system of claim 10 wherein the body is transparent.

19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) The ~~elosed~~ container system of claim 10 wherein the divider includes a rim.

21. (currently amended) The ~~elosed~~ container system of claim 10 further comprising a plant food added to the hydrogel.

22. (cancelled)

23. (new) The closed container system of claim 1 further comprising a live plant in the body lumen, wherein the roots of the plant protrude through the second lumen into the hydrogel in the subcontainer.

24. (new) The container system of claim 10 further comprising a live plant having leaves in the main lumen of the body, wherein the roots of the plant protrude through the second lumen in the divider into the hydrogel in the container.